

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUALA 02492 281941Z
ACTION HA-02

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 EA-06 INR-05 IO-06 SP-02 ISO-00
/036 W

-----015202 281956Z /45

R 280342Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3138
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUALA LUMPUR 2492

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

LIMDIS

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: SREF, MY
SUBJECT: FEEDBACK: BOAT REFUGEE VIEWS ON FACTORS AFFECTING ESCAPES

1. PRESENCE IN CAMPS OF ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE QUALIFIED REFUGEE OFFICER HAS ALLOWED FOR SURVEYS TO BE CONDUCTED REGARDING MEANS, MOTIVATION AND INTENDED DESTINATIONS OF ESCAPEES. WHILE NOT A SUBJECT OF SPECIFIC SURVEY, REFUGEES HAVE NEVERTHELESS VOLUNTEERED INFORMATION REGARDING RELATIVE EASE WITH WHICH THEY HAVE ESCAPED VIET-NAM IN RECENT MONTHS.

2. REFUGEE FEEDBACK ON ESCAPE DETAILS INDICATES THAT SRV IS NOT MAKING FULL-FLEDGED ATTEMPT TO STOP REFUGEES FROM LEAVING SRV. INDIVIDUALS IN MALAYSIAN CAMPS HAVE BOASTED OF EASE WITH WHICH THEY HAVE DEPARTED VUNG TAU, RACH GIA AND MY THO. ONE REFUGEE REPORTED THAT HIS BOAT LEFT FROM SAIGON DOCKS WITH 86 PERSONS ABOARD.

3. SRV REPORTEDLY CONTINUES TO PATROL SHORELINE, BOTH BY LAND AND BY SEA, AND TO ORGANIZE BOGUS ESCAPES TO NET CONSPIRATORS. JAIL SENTENCES FOR VIETNAMESE APPREHENDED WHILE PLANNING
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ESCAPES, OR WHILE IN THE ACT OF ESCAPING, ARE SAID TO BE RELATIVELY LIGHT. ONCE RELEASED FROM JAIL, MANY HOPEFUL ESCAPEES APPARENTLY CONTINUE THEIR EFFORTS TO FLEE VIET-NAM.

4. FEEDBACK INDICATES THAT SRV DEPLOYS EXTREMELY TIGHT SECURITY FROM CAMAU (SOUTHERN TIP OF SRV) UP WEST COAST TO CAMBODIA BORDER. SECURITY SAID TO BE DIRECTED TO DEFENSE,

THOUGH, RATHER THAN TO CAPTURING ESCAPEES-BY-BOAT.

5. ALSO SIGNIFICANT IS THE FREE FLOW OF MAIL BETWEEN
MALAYSIAN REFUGEE CAMPS AND RV. COMMENTS INDICATE TOTAL
TIME TO AND FROM SRV FOR LETTER TRAFFIC IS ABOUT 6 WEEKS.

6. COMMENT: IT IS EMPHASIZED THAT THE FOREGOING IS NOT
REPORTED AS CONSENSUS AMONG REFUGEES. REF:OPS HAS NOT
PICKED REFUGEE OPINION IN-DEPTH TO DETERMINE VERACITY OF
FEEDBACK. END COMMENT.
MILLER

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 28 mar 1978
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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